Hawaii AARINI

HAWAII MARINE C SECTION APRIL 6, 2007

The perfect season

CPRW-2 remains undefeated through nail-biting win, 56-55 for the championship

Cpl. Mark Fayloga Combat Correspondent

Impressive numbers from behind the arch, consistent free-throw shooting and one incredibly clutch 3-pointer helped Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 2, claim the Intramural Basketball League Championship over the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 Warriors, 56-55,

at the Semper Fit Center gym-

nasium Tuesday night.

Travis Carter, CPRW-2 guard and the game's MVP, led his team in scoring with 22 points and also sank the must-hit 3-pointer with 13 seconds left in the game to give CPRW-2 a one point lead which lasted to the final buzzer. Also, contributing to CPRW-2's offensive flurry were Lawrence Ballentine, team captain and guard, with four 3-pointers of his own and Jovan Mosby, power forward, who took full advantage of his many trips to the free-throw line.

Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 2 was undefeated going into the game and had already beaten the Warriors during the regular season. Ballentine hoped to maintain the perfect record and felt confident that

if his team played the way that had been all season the championship would be theirs.

"Hopefully, if we can all play together we'll pull the win out," said Ballentine. "We'll win if we play the way we've been playing all sea-

The Warriors hadn't had the same success as CPRW-2 during the regular season. They didn't even have a winning record, 5-8, but when the playoffs rolled around they won the games that mattered and had made it to the championship game.

"The whole regular season we thought we didn't have a chance but the first game of the playoff we were able to pull ourselves together and now we're in the championship game," said Henry L. Smalls, Warriors assistant coach. "I think it's going to be a good game. I really can't say we will win but we'll give it all we've got."

Give it all they had indeed, the Warriors didn't look like a team without a winning regular season record. They were the first to get on the board and soon had a 4-0 lead. Carter quickly narrowed that

See BASKETBALL, C-2



The CPRW-2 starting lineup pose with thier trophies after capping off a perfect season at the Semper Fit Center gymnasium Tuesday Night.

Warriors clip Eagles' wings 9-3 in intramural baseball



Kenneth Thornton, Headquarters and Service Battalion Warrior's player, lets a ball go by as he waits for the perfect pitch in an intramural baseball game against the Patrol Squadron 9 Eagles held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Monday.

Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Combat Correspondent

The number one team in the league, Headquarters and Service Battalion Warriors, trumped the Patrol Squadron 9 Eagles, 9-3 in an intramural baseball game held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Monday.

With this victory, the Warriors' record stands at 9-1. One of those wins includes a 13-3 thumping of their rivals and the number two team in the league, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment

Within the first two innings of the game, the Warriors were up 8-0. The Eagles were stifled at zero by the tremendous pitching of Joe Balcom, while the eight points were earned through the Warriors firm batting skills. Two of those runs were brought in by a home run from Kenneth Thornton. Also, Todd Lawhon, who was plagued

See CLIP, C-2

Women's History Month honored

Sgt. Sara A. Carter Combat Correspondent

Marines from Combat Service Support Group 3, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, hosted a 5K Run/Walk in celebration of Women's History Month

Although very few people showed up to participate in the race, the one's that did were eager to run.

Theresa Ten-year-old Foletta, who also participated in the Headquarters Battalion 6th Annual Surf and Turf 5K race March 24, said she was eager to start the race.

"I woke up at five this morning because I was so excited," she said.

This was Foletta's third race. Besides this race and the Surf and Turf 5K, she said she also participated in a 10K.

"I run because it's fun," said the brown haired girl. "I also like it for the exercise."

Her niece, 7-year-old Harmony Gonzales, also ran the race. While Foletta wanted to beat her last 5K run time of 34 minutes, Gonzales had bigger goals for the race.

"I want to try and come in first place," she said. "I want to try to win."

One family running the race together was Crystal Nelson, her daughter, 14-yearold Jessica, and son, 11-year-

old C.J. and their dog Chip. "We've been running together lately," said Crystal.



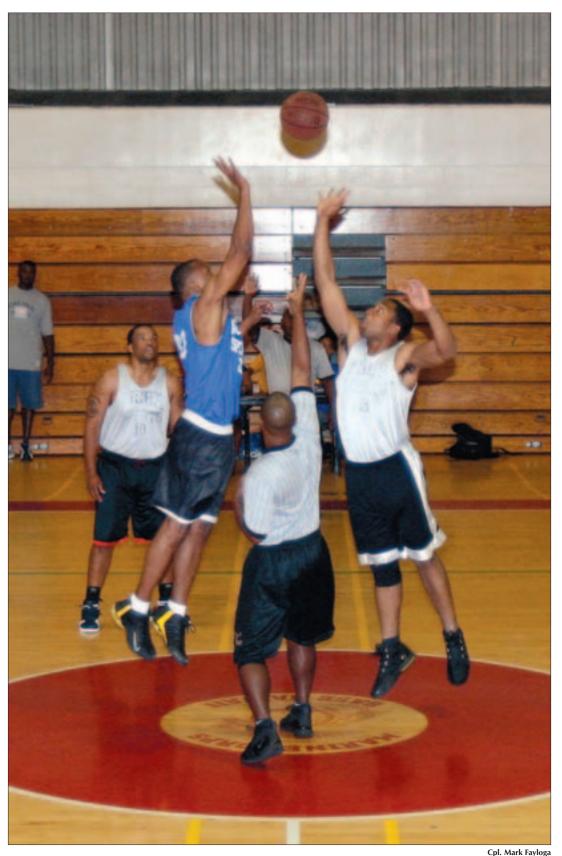
Crystal Nelson (center), her daughter, Jessica, 14, and son, C.J., 11, and their dog Chip start the Combat Service Support Group 3's, 5K run in honor of Women's History Month Friday.

"We've never done a 5K so we according to Adam Anderson, figured we would give it a try."

platoon sergeant, Landing It is unclear how many Support Platoon, and comparaces CSSG-3 has hosted in ny equal opportunity representative, there was a race past years for Women's held last year. History Month, however,

Cpl. Mark Fayloga Gabriel Wharton, Warriors center, shoots the jump shot during the Intramural Basketball League Championship Game.

C-2 • APRIL 6, 2007 HAWAII MARINE



Stefon Williams, Warriors forward (blue), and Andrew Washington, CPRW-2 center, battle it out for the tip-off during the Intramural Basketball League Championship Game at the Semper Fit Center gymnasium Tuesday night.



Kendrick Hall, Warriors power forward, takes the first of what would be many free-throw shots of the night during the Intramural Basketball League Championship Game at the Semper Fit Center gymnasium Tuesday night.

BASKETBALL, from C-1

lead with CPRW-2's first points of the game coming from behind the arch. From there, CPRW-2 took command of the game and after seven minutes of game play had a 13-4 lead. The Warriors didn't panic though and with solid team-offense they managed to take the lead back and held it until the very end of the half when Mosby was fouled and sunk both of his free-throw shots to regain the lead 30-29.

Narrowly trailing at the half Smalls knew what his team would have to do to regain the lead and hold onto it in the second half.

"We're going to slow it down and start working it to our big man," said Smalls. "Every time we give it to the big man they (CPRW-2) start getting frustrated, so we've got that to our advantage."

Unlike the Warriors, who had enough players to form two squads, CPRW-2 only had six players and played their starting five the entire game. When asked if the small bench would hurt his team in the second half Ballentine coolly replied, "Nah." And it didn't. Ballentine and his team continued to play

with the same intensity they had showed in the first half.

The second half played out identically to the first with the lead being passed back and forth. The Warriors plan of getting the ball to their big man Gabriel Wharton, center, was working. Wharton managed to rack up 11 second-half points but as a team the Warriors failed to capitalize on their free-throw oppor-

With only 13 seconds left in the game the Warriors were up by two until Carter sank the game winning 3-pointer without batting an

"I knew I was going to shoot it," said Carter of the game winning shot. "They gave me the ball and said, 'make a play.' I saw the opening so I shot it."

The Warriors failed to regain the lead in the waning moments of the game and in the end CPRW-2 had managed to maintain a perfect record after winning their closest game all year, 56-55.

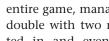
"It came down to the seconds," said Smalls about the outcome of the game. "That's how a championship game should be."



Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Marcus Lee, Patrol Squadron 9 Eagles' player, left, waits for the throw to tag out Todd Lawhon, Headquarters and Service Battalion Warriors' player as he safely slides back into first base, during an intramural baseball game held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii,

Tony Thomasson, Headquarters and Service Battalion Warriors' player slides into home plate in the top of the second bringing his teams score to five in the intramural baseball game against the VP-9 Eagles held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Monday.



CLIP, from C-1

entire game, managed to get a double with two runners batted in and eventually stole home. With a large amount of

with shoulder problems the

ground to make up, the Eagles desperately needed to put runners on the bases.

First up to bat for the Eagles the fences, Lee hit his mark and then some, hitting the third deck of the barracks behind the field. In the bottom of the second the Eagles put their first point on the board with a home run from

Lee's home run had the Eagles' feathers ruffled and they began to connect with more solid hits. However, the tight nit defense of the Warriors would not let the Eagles get past second base.

Three outs later the Warriors took their chance at the plate.

Rudy Ruddiger, Eagles' pitcher stepped up his game and put two warriors down

swinging. With two outs and two strikes Tony Thomasson managed to pull of a base hit and kept the Warriors afloat. Even when Thomas Bocook hit a pop fly for an easy out, miscommunication by the Eagles infield allowed the Warriors to put one more runner on base.

The Eagles' defense made up for it when a long high hit in the bottom of the second sailed to the edge of the fence was Marcus Lee. Swinging for where an Eagles player was perched to lunge for the catch. The Warriors were denied points again as the game moves into the bottom of the third.

> Mike Bertagnolli relieved Balcom at the mound and kept the Eagles in their nest with three easy outs. At the top of the fourth the score was 8-1.

> A string of base hits and a stolen run by Lawhon put one point on the board for the Warriors. The Warriors weren't able to capitalize on any other hits and the Eagles took to the plate.

> Lee stepped up to the plate again in the bottom of the fourth and hit a massive double. On the next hit he bolted

to third, but the Warriors closed in on him. Luckily for Lee an error by the third baseman gave him enough time to safely cross the plate, which brought the score to 9-2.

In the top of the fifth the Warriors needed three more runs to end the game early under the mercy ruling. Erik Phelps, Eagles' pitcher apparently had other ideas. With a slew of pitching styles Phelps three games we were not able was able to put the Warriors down with relative ease.

The Eagles took flight in the bottom of the fifth, only to be shot down by the Warriors dominating infield.

Turn about was fair play as Phelps mopped up the floor with three of the Warriors batters. At the bottom of the sixth the score remained 9-3.

Unshakeable defense and a touch of pitching talent kept the Eagles from pulling off any runs in the sixth.

In the last inning, Phelps

again silenced the Warriors. Three up and three down, and the Eagles set up for their last at bat, which didn't last long.

Richard "Cap" Caplette, Warriors' coach and pitcher, didn't allow one hit and the Eagles went down swinging, leaving the Warriors with another victory, 9-3.

"We came out of the gate strong, but just like the last to put them away early," said Caplette. "We get a little over confident and just let them linger."

With nine straight wins under their belt the Warriors have passed their main competition, the Vets. These two teams are the two contenders for the championship this sea-

"We have to get that kill factor back in there," said Caplette. "Especially if we want to keep our winning streak going."





Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Thomas Andrs, Headquarters and Service Battalion Warrior's player, decided to have a little fun by sliding face first into the muddy home plate after the game against 3rd Radio Battalion was called on acount of rain March 26.



Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

SPOILLAIT ON SPORTS

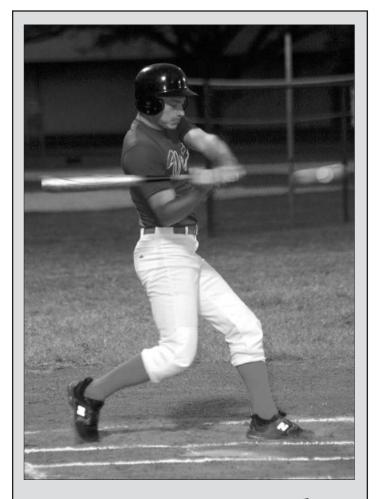
Sports Briefs

Youth Soccer Now Registering

Youth Activities is accepting youth soccer registration now through April 30. The season begins June 4, and is open to all authorized patrons born between 1992 and 2002. The cost for the league is \$60, and all participants must be Children Youth & Teen Program members. Visit Youth Activities between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Building 1090B or call 254-7611 for further information.

Intramural Softball League Meeting

Marine Corps Community Service Intramural Athletics will host an Intramural Softball League organizational meeting, April 10 at the Semper Fit Center for all interested coaches. For more information, please call 254-7591.



Intramural baseball standings

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES
3/3	8	1	0
HQBN	8	1	0
MAG-24	5	3	0
CSSG-3	4	5	0
VP-9	3	5	0
VP-47	1	5	0
3RD RADIO BN	0	9	0

Bowling stats

Tean	n Standings					-								
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Making a grab for it



Sgt. Sara A. Cart

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 Marines race to be the first to grab a ball during a dodge ball tournament for the unit Friday.

Thanks for the lift

William G. Perez, commanding officer, Headquarters Battalion, assists Alfred E. Russomano on the bench press during the Combat **Service Support** Group 3 Women's **History Month Bench Press** Contest at the **Semper Fit Center** March 28. During the competition, Russomano lifted the most overall weight, benching 350 pounds, but it was Perez who claimed top honors with a 315 pound bench press, 134 pounds over his own body weight.

* standings as of April 2



Cpl. Mark Fayloga

C-4 • April 6, 2007 Hawaii Marine



Competitors line up prior to the playing of the national anthem at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay Bowling Center during the Hawaii All Military Bowling Tournament March 28.

Retirees bowl over competition

Four-day Hawaii All Military Bowling Tournament held

Story and Photos by
Cpl. Mark Fayloga
Combat Correspondent

After four days of spirited bowling, the Retiree Team struck down the competition during the Hawaii All Military Bowling Tournament at the Pearl Harbor Bowling Center Friday.

The Marines held a narrow lead

after the opening match March 27 during the Doubles Event. On day two the Retiree's took over the lead and maintained it until the end. Team Navy took second place followed by Team Air Force, the Marines and Team Army.

"This is the first time in ten years the retirees have won, there's no words to describe it," said Gary Naone, retiree team captain. "It felt perfect. It was really great to pull out the win."

The retirees had the lead for the majority of the tournament and Naone believes it was the effort from the women that helped his team claim victory.

"It was a team event and the women stepped it up and came out ahead in their part and the men finished second in their division," said Naone. "The women finishing first put us over. I was really proud of the team effort and we did really well team wise. Our goal was to get the team overall award."

The Hawaii All Military Bowling Tournament is an annual event that brings together the best bowlers on island of each service to compete for bragging rights. Each team is given about a month and a half to prepare. During that time, each service holds tryouts, then forms a team using the top six male and four female bowlers.

During the four-day event, six games are played a day. Each day is a different competition. Day one is the doubles tourney, day two mixed doubles, day three is singles and day four is a team event. At the end of the four days the combined scores from all days are added up and the team with the highest score is declared the winner. The tournament is a favorite among service members, and even after funding was cut from the event, bowlers decided to pay for it themselves.

"This is the only all services tournament in Hawaii and they love the chance to come together and compete and show camaraderie," said Millie L. Gomes, Navy Region Hawaii bowling program director and tournament organizer. "I'm a bowler myself and when they said they couldn't fund it anymore because of cutting funds, I asked everyone if they still wanted to do it anyway. All of the bowlers stepped up and were willing to pay their own fees and there's no

Swick

Derrick Sato, Team Army, warms up on the lanes at the Kaneohe Bay Bowling Center during the Hawaii All Military Bowling Tournament March 28.

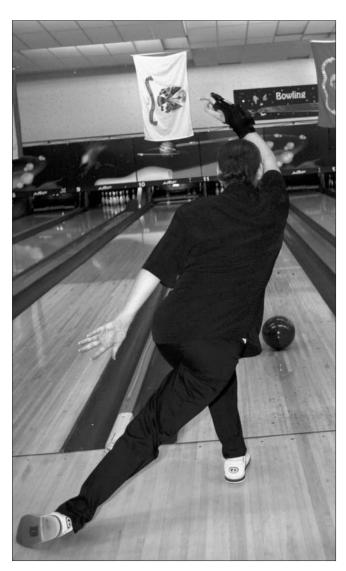
other tournament like this."

The near loss of the tournament has been upsetting to most competitors who look forward to the yearly challenge. Still, they are quick to show their appreciation to Gomes and her dedication to keeping the tournament going strong. Under Gomes organization the tournament has been self-suf-

ficient for the past 10 years.

"For me personally, I enjoy bowling and meeting people from other branches of service I don't usually get to see and share in the camaraderie between each other," said Naone. "I really do appreciate that Millie keeps this tournament going and bringing us together

A bowler warms
up on the lanes
at the Kaneohe
Bay Bowling
Center during the
Hawaii All
Military Bowling
Tournament
March 28.



Disabled vets expecting miracles as winter sports clinic opens

Donna MilesAmerican Forces Press Service

SNOWMASS VILLAGE, Colo. — Some 450 disabled veterans converging here today -- about 100 of them wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan -- aren't looking for April Fools pranks. They're

expecting miracles.

The veterans are kicking off the 21st National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, six days jam-packed with activities designed to push them to new heights and enhance their rehabilitation

Veterans of past clinics -and the people who have
watched them show themselves and the world what
they can still do — refer to
what happens here as
"Miracles on the
Mountainside."

Participants will learn Alpine and Nordic skiing and try their hands at rock climbing, scuba diving, trapshooting, snowmobiling, sled hockey, wheelchair fencing and other activities.

In doing so, they'll demonstrate that they're not about to let an amputation, spinal cord injury, visual impairment or other severe disability get in the way of a full, productive life.

Among this year's returnees is 28-year-old Marine Corps veteran David Vidana, already a walking miracle.

Vidana was shot in the head by a sniper in Baghdad in April 2003. He was considered dead for a full 12 hours before his caregivers were able to detect a faint pulse. Dr. Sanjay Gupta, CNN's medical correspondent, happened to be embedded with Vidana's unit at the time, and performed the surgery that saved his life. "I know it's a miracle that I'm alive," Vidana said.

His recovery has been miraculous as well. Just one year after teetering on the brink of death, he came to his first winter sports clinic here. "I didn't think I was going to be able to walk, and then a year later, I was snowboarding!" he said.

Bradley Barton, national commander of Disabled American Veterans, which cosponsors the program with the Department of Veterans Affairs, said experiences like Vidana's are common during the winter sports clinic.

"It is truly a miracle to see the transformation take place on the mountain as these men and women push themselves to the limit and rehabilitate both body and mind," he said.

Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson shared Barton's assessment, calling the participants' courage and determination "examples for us all."

Participants range in age from their late teens to their 80s and served in every conflict since World War II. All receive care from a VA healthcare facility.

They understand each other in a special way, and it's that bond as much as the thrills and gratification they get here that keeps many coming back, year after year.

"At previous clinics, I met other Marines from other conflicts with different types of injuries, who shared great insight and perspective," Vidana said as he anticipated this week's clinic. "It helps with meeting people who understand your injury."

Faoa "Ap" Apineru, a Marine who suffered a traumatic brain injury when an improvised explosive device exploded nearby during a road-clearing mission in Iraq in May 2005, is attending his first winter sports clinic and looks forward to that interaction.

"I think it's positive to share something positive and social with other veterans," said Apineru, who was medically retired as a staff sergeant.

"The reason the clinic is

"The reason the clinic is important starts with camaraderie," he said. "Events like this boost morale and give us an idea that there truly are people out there who care for us."

Army veteran Joseph Hineman, at 84, is among the oldest participants in this year's clinic, but knows he



Participants in the 20th National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic prepare their gear at the base of Snowmass Mountain, Colorado.

has a lot to share with German mortar in October younger and more recently disabled veterans.

German mortar in October 1944 while his unit was trying to capture the bridge at

After surviving the Battle of the Bulge, Hineman was hit by shrapnel from a

German mortar in October 1944 while his unit was trying to capture the bridge at Ramagan over the Rhine River. He lost his left leg above the knee.

He said he looks forward to sharing his insights and his positive philosophy with the younger veterans he meets here.

"We share a generational

bond, because even though I'm much older, I can identify with them psychologically and physiologically because of our similar injuries," he

AROUND THE CORPS

Team Marine boxers take second, individual wins gold

Steven Dinote

USMC Sports

With new head coach Ron Simms, the All-Marine Boxing Team fought their way to the team silver. As military operations still hurt the Service teams, the Marines brought an inexperienced squad, with only one team veteran to the 2007 Armed Forces Championship. The 2007 Armed Forces Boxing Championship was held at the Bennet Fitness Center at Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX March 5 through 10.

Samuel Martinez defeated reigning gold medalist Adam Fusinato (Navy) to bring home the only Marine Corps' gold medal. Roberto Castillo, James Rocha, Erick Earvin, Juan Hernandez each earned the silver medal. Martinez's performance earned him a trip to represent the United States at the CISM World Military Games October 10 through 22 in Hyderabad, India. Coach Ronald Simms was named as the Armed Forces Assistant Coach with the U.S. Army's Head Coach Basheer Abdullah at the helm.

The All-Army team captured their 16th consecutive Armed Forces Title with 19 team points.

The U.S. National Championships take place June 11-16 at Colorado Springs, Colo.

Results Female Light

(GOLD MEDALIST) Lynette Lopez (NAVY), Miami, defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Khara Keegan (ARMY), Fort Huachuca, Ariz. — by DEC (45-33)

Female Heavy

(GOLD MEDALIST) Autumn Anderson (Army), F.E. Warren AFB, defeated Trivia Pino (Navy), Pearl Harbor, Hawaii — by DEC (20-16)

Light Flyweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Adrian Ghisoiu (Army), Fort Hood, Texas defeated (SIL-VER MEDALIST) Roberto Castillo (Marine Corps), NCAS New River, N.C. — by DEC (48-25)

Flyweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) John Franklin (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. — Uncontested

Bantamweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Alexis Ramos (Army), Kaiserslautern, Germany defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Eugene Marques (Air Force),



RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom — by DEC (40-18)

Featherweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Rosey Summerville (Air Force), Shaw AFB, S.C. defeated (SIL-VER MEDALIST) Christopher Munar (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. — by DEC (32-11)

Lightweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) James Villa (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) James Rocha (Marine Corps), MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C. — by DEC (49-28)

Light Welterweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Samuel Martinez (Marine Corps), MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C. defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Adam Fusinato (Navy), F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo. — by DEC (20-27)

Welterweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Boyd Melson (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Andre Penn (Air Forces), Ellsworth AFB, S.D. — by DEC (26-15)

Middleweight

(GOLD MEDALIST)
Zachaeus Hardwick (Army),
Fort Carson, Colo. defeated
(SILVER MEDALIST) Mylin
Wyche (Marine Corps),
NMCB-25, Chicago — by RSC
1:01 4th Rnd

Light Heavyweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Christopher Downs (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Gilbert Shgangoo (Navy), SERE School, Pax River, Md. — by RSC 1:43 3rd Rnd

Heavyweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Joe



File pho

The purpose of boxing safety equipment is to help prevent and reduce the severity of injuries in the ring.

Guzman (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Erick Earvin (Marine Corps), MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C. — by DEC (30-12)

Super Heavyweight

(GOLD MEDALIST) Andrew

Shepherd, (Army), Fort Carson, Colo. defeated (SILVER MEDALIST) Juan Hernandez (Marine Corps), MCB Camp Pendleton, Calif. — by DEC (Score TBA)

Note: All gold medalists are eligible to represent the U.S. Armed Forces on the 2007

CISM World Military Games in Hyderabad, India, Oct.12-22.

Team Standings

1st place — Army 19 points 2nd place — Marine Corps 3 points

3rd place — Air Force 3 points 4th place — Navy 1 point